

PUBLIC NOTICE
The Maryland Department of Natural Resources
Fishing and Boating Services
2019-2020 Recreational Oyster Rules — Effective 9/19/2019

WHAT THIS NOTICE DOES

- The Secretary of the Maryland Department of Natural Resource establishes the rules for the recreational oyster season, days of the week that an individual may catch oysters, catch limits, and catch times.
- Season
 - The recreational oyster season is open from October 1, 2019 through and including March 31, 2020.
 - The season is closed all other dates.
- Catch Limit
 - The recreational catch limit is 100 oysters per person per day.
- Days of the Week That an Individual May Catch Oysters
 - Individuals catching oysters for recreational purposes may only catch oysters on Tuesday, Friday, and Saturday.
- Catch Times
 - Individuals catching oysters for recreational purposes may only catch oysters from sunrise to 12 p.m.

WHY IS THIS NOTICE NECESSARY?

Based on regulatory changes that became effective on August 26, 2019, under COMAR 08.02.04.02A, the department must establish certain rules for the oyster fishery by public notice.

WHERE DO THESE RULES APPLY?

All oyster harvest areas. Oyster harvest areas are submerged ground where an individual is allowed to catch oysters. “Oyster harvest area” does not include an area leased for aquaculture, restricted by the Maryland Department of the Environment, or designated as a submerged aquatic vegetation protection zone, harvest reserve area, or sanctuary.

EFFECTIVE DATE

This notice is effective at 12:01 a.m. September 19, 2019.

WHO IS AFFECTED?

Anyone who catches oysters for recreational purposes. These rules do not apply to individuals legally harvesting oysters from an aquaculture lease.

AUTHORITY

Natural Resources Article, §4-215, Annotated Code of Maryland
Code of Maryland Regulations 08.02.04.11G

Jeannie Haddaway-Riccio
Secretary of Natural Resources